

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph starting at col. 8, line 65 ending at col. 9, line 16 with the following amended paragraph:

Turning now to Figures 17 and 18, a first embodiment of a surgical clip 210 according to the invention includes first and second arms 212, 214, respectively, and a bridge portion 216 therebetween such that the arms and bridge portion are in a generally U-shaped configuration. The first arm ~~[[12]]~~ 212 is provided with an end catch 220, and the second arm 214 extends (or transitions) into a deformable retainer 222 having a tissue piercing tip 224 and a plurality of catch engagements, e.g. 226, 228. The arms define an open space 230 between them. The clip 210 is preferably made from a unitary piece of titanium, titanium alloy, stainless steel, tantalum, platinum, other high Z (substantially radiopaque) materials, nickel-titanium alloy, martensitic alloy, or plastic, although other suitable biocompatible materials may be used. The first and second arms 212, 214, as well as the bridge portion 216 are relatively stiff and not plastically deformable within the limits of force applied to the arms during use, while the retainer 222 is relatively easily plastically deformable by the clip applier.